The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation

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Current Economic Indicators

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Building Permit Values
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1985 vs. 1984

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News

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BUILDING PERMIT VALUES ROSE BY 10 PERCENT IN 1985

NEW YORK, July 9--The value of building permits issued by the nation's 200 largest cities increased by 10.0 percent to $55.1 billion, in 1985, according to data compiled by The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation. Though the increase was substantial, it was not as strong as the 16.8 percent gain in 1984.

"A significant number of cities in the industrial Midwest were among those with the largest percent increases, reflecting the increased construction in these areas, while activity has plateaued in many Sunbelt areas," said Joseph W. Duncan, corporate economist and chief statistician of The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation. "In addition, the large number of Northeast and New England cities in the top 25 underscores the strong economic growth in these regions."

The largest increase was reported in Kansas City, Kan., where permit values rose 301.1 percent to $216.5 million from $54 million a year ago. A $170.5 million permit issued for the construction of a new General Motors facility was almost entirely responsible for the sharp increase.

Cambridge, Mass., ranked second in percent gain with an increase of 208.4 percent to $520 million from $168.6 million a year ago.

In third-ranked Trenton, N.J., permit values rose 197.5 percent to $50.4 million from $16.9 million in 1984. Much of the increase was attributable to two large projects, an $11 million permit for alterations and additions to a medical center and a $5 million permit for the construction of a sewage treatment plant.

New Bedford, Mass., ranked fourth with a gain of 156.8 percent to $29.6 million from $11.5 million in 1984. A significant portion of the increase resulted from an $8.5 million permit for the construction of a new apartment building.

In Dearborn, Mich., several permits totaling about $78 million were issued for the construction of new Ford Motor Co. facilities, which resulted in a 150 percent increase in permit values to $129.2 million from $51.7 million in the preceeding year.

Among the cities with the largest total value of permits issued, Los Angeles ranked first with an increase of 13.7 percent to $3.54 billion from $3.12 billion in 1984. New York ranked second with a gain of 15.9 percent to $2.37 billion from $2.04 billion a year ago. The increase in New York was attributable to

the continued strength in construction activity in Manhattan, and significant gains in the boroughs of Queens and Staten Island.

Dallas, despite a 16.5 percent decrease in building permit values to $2.07 billion, ranked third. San Diego, with an 18.1 percent gain to $1.97 billion ranked fourth, followed by Phoenix with a 3.0 percent increase to $1.27 billion.

The cities with the sharpest decreases in building permit values were Yonkers, N.Y., down 82.2 percent to $40.8 million; Mobile, Ala., down 65.2 percent to $88.9 million; Peoria, Ill., down 54.6 percent to $25.5 million; Duluth, Minn., down 43.9 percent to $16.3 million; and Lowell, Mass., down 42.3 percent to $70.8 million.

Comparative 1985 building permit figures for all 200 cities are included in the accompanying tables.

Since building permits are issued prior to the start of actual construction, levels of building permits generally forecast future construction activity for a period of about six to 18 months.

Building permit values are tabulated monthly and issued quarterly by the Economic Analysis Department of The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation. Data are complied for the nation's 200 largest cities, as defined by populations contained within their city limits. These values include permits issued for both commercial and residential construction. Monthly data may be obtained by contacting "Dun & Bradstreet Looks At Business."

The Dun & Bradstreet Corporation is the world's largest producer of business information and services, with worldwide revenue of nearly $2.8 billion in 1985.

(See Attached Tabular Data)

THE DUN & BRADSTREET CORPORATION

Building Permit Values
1985 vs. 1984

Top 25 Cities Ranked by Percent Change

City	1985	1984	% Change
1. Kansas City, Kan.	$216,478,162	$ 53,974,366	301.1%
2. Cambridge, Mass.	519,964,356	168,586,964	208.4%
3. Trenton, N.J.	50,396,722	16,937,456	197.5%
4. New Bedford, Mass.	29,553,224	11,510,164	156.8%
5. Dearborn, Mich.	129,216,543	51,687,014	150.0%
6. Santa Monica, Calif.	98,255,243	39,679,314	147.6%
7. Youngstown, Ohio	18,429,298	7,720,229	138.7%
8. Brockton, Mass.	38,261,185	16,457,898	132.5%
9. Jersey City, N.J.	155,806,189	67,160,531	132.0%
10. Pittsburgh, Pa.	320,396,456	140,020,824	128.8%
11. Hammond, Ind.	21,019,195	9,374,717	124.2%
12. Bridgeport, Conn.	42,507,663	20,352,361	108.9%
13. Berkeley, Calif.	63,488,383	30,474,045	108.3%
14. Glendale, Calif.	306,303,732	147,969,172	107.0%
15. Sterling Heights, Mich.	109,773,636	53,349,493	105.8%
16. Elizabeth, N.J.	17,252,724	8,784,862	96.4%
17. Savannah, Ga.	134,807,795	70,839,542	90.3%
18. Chattanooga, Tenn.	161,002,117	85,207,209	89.0%
19. Manchester, N.H.	129,544,153	69,095,812	87.5%
20. Memphis, Tenn.	705,492,477	385,372,097	83.1%
21. Lansing, Mich.	74,572,708	41,385,109	80.2%
22. Rochester, N.Y.	111,835,631	62,860,059	77.9%
23. Fullerton, Calif.	107,316,445	60,478,837	77.4%
24. Springfield, Mo.	173,043,039	99,443,835	74.0%
25. Birmingham, Ala.	234,948,715	135,912,883	72.9%

THE DUN & BRADSTREET CORPORATION

Building Permit Values
1985 vs. 1984

Top Ten Cities Ranked by Total Value of Permits Issued

City	1985	1984	% Change
1. Los Angeles, Calif.	$3,544,302,303	$3,117,863,261	13.7%
2. New York, N.Y.	2,367,214,443	2,042,007,003	15.9%
Manhattan	1,394,703,728	1,210,438,721	15.2%
Bronx	81,719,568	130,717,523	-37.5%
Brooklyn	222,430,182	259,906,664	-14.4%
Queens	341,918,447	221,027,949	54.7%
Staten Island	326,442,481	219,916,146	48.4%
3. Dallas, Tex.	2,067,873,007	2,476,676,463	-16.5%
4. San Diego, Calif.	1,973,711,187	1,671,622,595	18.1%
5. Phoenix, Ariz.	1,265,586,791	1,228,192,092	3.0%
6. Houston, Tex.	1,178,842,966	1,344,270,231	-12.3%
7. Austin, Tex.	1,156,316,802	1,151,500,024	0.4%
8. San Francisco, Calif.	1,079,052,071	746,850,556	44.5%
9. Chicago, Ill.	1,042,291,624	703,426,093	48.2%
10. Nashville, Tenn.	992,106,648	836,968,105	18.5%

THE DUN & BRADSTREET CORPORATION

Economic Analysis Department

Building Permit Values - 202 Largest U.S. Cities

RANK BY % CHG.:	CITY:	TOTAL 1985	TOTAL 1984	% CHANGE 1984-1985
1	KANSAS CITY, KS	$216,478,162	$53,974,366	301.1%
2	CAMBRIDGE, MA	$519,964,356	$168,586,964	208.4%
3	TRENTON, NJ	$50,396,722	$16,937,456	197.5%
4	NEW BEDFORD, MA	$29,553,224	$11,510,164	156.8%
5	DEARBORN, MI	$129,216,543	$51,687,014	150.0%
6	SANTA MONICA, CA	$98,255,243	$39,679,314	147.6%
7	YOUNGSTOWN, OH	$18,429,298	$7,720,229	138.7%
8	BROCKTON, MA	$38,261,185	$16,457,898	132.5%
9	JERSEY CITY, NJ	$155,806,189	$67,160,531	132.0%
10	PITTSBURGH, PA	$320,396,456	$140,020,824	128.8%
11	HAMMOND, IN	$21,019,195	$9,374,717	124.2%
12	BRIDGEPORT, CT	$42,507,663	$20,352,361	108.9%
13	BERKELEY, CA	$63,488,383	$30,474,045	108.3%
14	GLENDALE, CA	$306,303,732	$147,969,172	107.0%
15	STERLING HEIGHTS, MI	$109,773,636	$53,349,493	105.8%
16	ELIZABETH, NJ	$17,252,724	$8,784,862	96.4%
17	SAVANNAH, GA	$134,807,795	$70,839,542	90.3%
18	CHATTANOOGA, TN	$161,002,117	$85,207,209	89.0%
19	MANCHESTER, NH	$129,544,153	$69,095,812	87.5%
20	MEMPHIS, TN	$705,492,477	$385,372,097	83.1%
21	LANSING, MI	$74,572,708	$41,385,109	80.2%
22	ROCHESTER, NY	$111,835,631	$62,860,059	77.9%
23	FULLERTON, CA	$107,316,445	$60,478,837	77.4%
24	SPRINGFIELD, MO	$173,043,039	$99,443,835	74.0%
25	BIRMINGHAM, AL	$234,948,715	$135,912,883	72.9%
26	WINSTON-SALEM, NC	$244,318,095	$141,829,955	72.3%
27	ST. PAUL, MN	$264,479,457	$154,940,297	70.7%
28	PORTLAND, OR	$239,836,056	$140,538,547	70.7%
29	HUNTSVILLE, AL	$258,866,970	$152,125,553	70.2%
30	COLUMBIA, SC	$116,308,503	$68,653,486	69.4%
31	INDIANAPOLIS, IN	$810,005,554	$481,831,319	68.1%
32	MIAMI BEACH, FL	$64,101,218	$39,389,578	62.7%
33	GREEN BAY, WI	$78,045,593	$48,649,138	60.4%
34	FORT LAUDERDALE, FL	$216,572,284	$135,239,295	60.1%
35	EUGENE, OR	$57,317,318	$35,809,968	60.1%
36	ATLANTA, GA	$614,843,230	$386,470,839	59.1%
37	PROVIDENCE, RI	$27,784,804	$17,679,698	57.2%
38	NEWARK, NJ	$57,961,994	$37,640,917	54.0%
39	TORRANCE, CA	$183,691,714	$119,329,020	53.9%
40	SEATTLE, WA	$595,825,937	$391,851,980	52.1%

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Building Permit Values - 202 Largest U.S. Cities

RANK BY % CHG.:	CITY:	TOTAL 1985	TOTAL 1984	% CHANGE 1984-1985
41	OXNARD, CA	$92,995,732	$61,196,364	52.0%
42	NEW HAVEN, CT	$92,427,337	$61,434,323	50.4%
43	WICHITA FALLS, TX	$68,942,474	$45,960,328	50.0%
44	PARMA, OH	$26,801,405	$18,065,395	48.4%
45	CHICAGO, IL	$1,042,291,624	$703,426,093	48.2%
46	PUEBLO, CO	$55,560,367	$37,567,605	47.9%
47	HARTFORD, CT	$199,223,376	$134,733,975	47.9%
48	BAKERSFIELD, CA	$158,785,578	$108,078,553	46.9%
49	CEDAR RAPIDS, IA	$41,029,080	$28,098,821	46.0%
50	ALEXANDRIA, VA	$197,765,367	$135,658,391	45.8%
51	GREENSBORO, NC	$196,440,870	$135,376,522	45.1%
52	MILWAUKEE, WI	$185,187,013	$127,623,833	45.1%
53	ROCKFORD, IL	$47,208,709	$32,596,464	44.8%
54	WATERBURY, CT	$58,270,300	$40,325,052	44.5%
55	SAN FRANCISCO, CA	$1,079,052,071	$746,850,556	44.5%
56	MODESTO, CA	$163,774,769	$113,669,218	44.1%
57	TACOMA, WA	$163,690,036	$114,408,691	43.1%
58	EVANSVILLE, IN	$96,825,769	$67,762,542	42.9%
59	LOUISVILLE, KY	$97,030,819	$69,364,740	39.9%
60	ORLANDO, FL	$279,455,763	$204,038,302	37.0%
61	HAMPTON, VA	$117,121,720	$85,748,555	36.6%
62	LAREDO, TX	$46,161,848	$33,798,688	36.6%
63	SALT LAKE CITY, UT	$205,381,853	$151,143,134	35.9%
64	LINCOLN, NE	$152,344,031	$112,713,424	35.2%
65	CHESAPEAKE, VA	$232,439,917	$173,917,612	33.6%
66	RALIEGH, NC	$541,807,601	$405,641,571	33.6%
67	SPRINGFIELD, IL	$56,442,632	$42,410,375	33.1%
68	HAYWARD, CA	$191,541,448	$143,939,554	33.1%
69	TAMPA, FL	$549,942,630	$419,207,814	31.2%
70	LAS VEGAS, NV	$248,950,617	$189,944,675	31.1%
71	HONOLULU, HI	$619,688,738	$473,942,596	30.8%
72	FALL RIVER, MA	$20,665,795	$15,831,640	30.5%
73	MONTGOMERY, AL	$169,701,800	$130,878,600	29.7%
74	ANAHEIM, CA	$234,278,537	$180,786,127	29.6%
75	LONG BEACH, CA	$267,895,304	$208,445,110	28.5%
76	WACO, TX	$85,137,838	$66,429,703	28.2%
77	PASADENA, TX	$69,501,097	$54,357,086	27.9%
78	TOPEKA, KS	$73,824,112	$58,025,335	27.2%
79	BOISE, ID	$109,503,213	$86,069,408	27.2%
80	FORT WAYNE, IN	$99,400,532	$79,127,166	25.6%

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Building Permit Values - 202 Largest U.S. Cities

RANK BY % CHG.:	CITY:	TOTAL 1985	TOTAL 1984	% CHANGE 1984-1985
81	DURHAM, NC	$222,402,775	$178,821,233	24.4%
82	ALBANY, NY	$79,054,803	$64,404,309	22.7%
83	PORTSMOUTH, VA	$52,027,082	$42,431,464	22.6%
84	INGLEWOOD, CA	$65,309,953	$53,338,617	22.4%
85	GARLAND, TX	$127,129,723	$103,923,297	22.3%
86	FLINT, MI	$75,493,421	$62,228,735	21.3%
87	KANSAS CITY, MO	$540,475,148	$448,006,679	20.6%
88	SYRACUSE, NY	$63,867,927	$53,015,542	20.5%
89	NASHVILLE, TN	$992,106,648	$836,968,105	18.5%
90	SAN DIEGO, CA	$1,973,711,187	$1,671,622,595	18.1%
91	INDEPENDENCE, MO	$41,537,646	$35,344,863	17.5%
92	HIALEAH, FL	$95,402,514	$81,346,163	17.3%
93	ONTARIO, CA	$179,482,770	$153,428,426	17.0%
94	CHARLOTTE, NC	$769,998,039	$659,883,943	16.7%
95	HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA	$148,022,323	$127,154,586	16.4%
96	DECATUR, IL	$20,934,723	$18,043,155	16.0%
97	NEW YORK, NY	$2,367,214,443	$2,042,007,003	15.9%
	MANHATTAN	$1,394,703,728	$1,210,438,721	15.2%
	BRONX	$81,719,568	$130,717,523	-37.5%
	BROOKLYN	$222,430,182	$259,906,664	-14.4%
	QUEENS	$341,918,447	$221,027,949	54.7%
	STATEN ISLAND	$326,442,481	$219,916,146	48.4%
98	SACRAMENTO, CA	$446,578,049	$386,339,944	15.6%
99	GARDEN GROVE, CA	$86,195,085	$74,607,024	15.5%
100	RIVERSIDE, CA	$271,678,072	$236,587,853	14.8%
101	GRAND RAPIDS, MI	$88,686,069	$77,240,912	14.8%
102	TUCSON, AZ	$374,047,744	$326,993,026	14.4%
103	FORT WORTH, TX	$667,603,224	$584,163,256	14.3%
104	LOS ANGELES, CA	$3,544,302,303	$3,117,863,261	13.7%
105	WORCESTER, MA	$86,130,662	$76,329,368	12.8%
106	SCOTTSDALE, AZ	$584,557,726	$518,088,311	12.8%
107	COLUMBUS, OH	$554,819,927	$493,724,130	12.4%
108	RICHMOND, VA	$136,232,647	$121,287,742	12.3%
109	ERIE, PA	$27,531,421	$24,703,492	11.4%
110	POMONA, CA	$80,404,424	$72,939,641	10.2%
111	WASHINGTON, D.C.	$580,291,284	$530,508,491	9.4%
112	DES MOINES, IA	$115,487,043	$106,083,621	8.9%
113	TEMPE, AZ	$324,230,900	$297,940,740	8.8%
114	COLUMBUS, GA	$111,919,681	$102,906,338	8.8%
115	MINNEAPOLIS, MN	$292,876,762	$269,977,885	8.5%

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Building Permit Values - 202 Largest U.S. Cities

RANK BY % CHG.:	CITY:	TOTAL 1985	TOTAL 1984	% CHANGE 1984-1985
116	NORFOLK, VA	$174,793,083	$161,522,269	8.2%
117	FRESNO, CA	$239,883,240	$221,694,127	8.2%
118	ST. PETERSBURG, FL	$140,157,763	$130,268,354	7.6%
119	LIVONIA, MI	$123,232,012	$114,580,772	7.6%
120	PHILADELPHIA, PA	$581,179,495	$540,687,723	7.5%
121	SUNNYVALE, CA	$233,317,633	$217,127,933	7.5%
122	OMAHA, NE	$236,167,683	$222,723,776	6.0%
123	JACKSONVILLE, FL	$711,457,884	$671,650,078	5.9%
124	AKRON, OH	$103,800,448	$98,151,490	5.8%
125	WARREN, MI	$62,483,087	$59,099,419	5.7%
126	MIAMI, FL	$303,348,217	$287,504,509	5.5%
127	LEXINGTON, KY	$274,397,050	$260,348,289	5.4%
128	ANN ARBOR, MI	$70,990,879	$67,525,987	5.1%
129	JACKSON, MS	$130,520,651	$126,014,681	3.6%
130	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	$556,633,423	$538,987,719	3.3%
131	PHOENIX, AZ	$1,265,586,791	$1,228,192,092	3.0%
132	FREMONT, CA	$302,287,450	$297,934,096	1.5%
133	AUSTIN, TX	$1,156,316,802	$1,151,500,024	0.4%
134	PASADENA, CA	$113,542,738	$113,478,295	0.1%
135	MADISON, WI	$161,351,063	$162,396,273	-0.6%
136	SANTA ANA, CA	$207,309,217	$209,757,464	-1.2%
137	EL PASO, TX	$291,043,590	$295,230,124	-1.4%
138	NEWPORT NEWS, VA	$153,058,830	$156,190,874	-2.0%
139	AMARILLO, TX	$160,147,948	$164,440,680	-2.6%
140	AURORA, CO	$238,411,874	$245,060,826	-2.7%
141	SAN JOSE, CA	$744,477,390	$768,626,081	-3.1%
142	CANTON, OH	$25,232,409	$26,231,258	-3.8%
143	BUFFALO, NY	$48,616,506	$50,760,970	-4.2%
144	ARLINGTON, TX	$595,369,573	$623,591,435	-4.5%
145	SPRINGFIELD, MA	$79,756,221	$83,551,817	-4.5%
146	ODESSA, TX	$37,854,052	$39,903,484	-5.1%
147	SAN BERNARDINO, CA	$131,126,113	$140,310,554	-6.5%
148	TOLEDO, OH	$94,209,257	$101,526,008	-7.2%
149	IRVING, TX	$484,891,352	$526,293,608	-7.9%
150	SHREVEPORT, LA	$207,366,486	$226,110,442	-8.3%
151	MESA, AZ	$687,311,166	$750,163,302	-8.4%
152	COLORADO SPRINGS, CO	$562,075,628	$616,322,063	-8.8%
153	DAVENPORT, IA	$43,123,500	$47,872,271	-9.9%
154	ST. LOUIS, MO	$261,556,625	$291,160,455	-10.2%
155	GLENDALE, AZ	$213,773,565	$238,864,588	-10.5%

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Building Permit Values - 202 Largest U.S. Cities

RANK BY % CHG.:	CITY:	TOTAL 1985	TOTAL 1984	% CHANGE 1984-1985
156	NEW ORLEANS, LA	$354,831,758	$396,661,336	-10.5%
157	ORANGE, CA	$130,507,199	$146,696,236	-11.0%
158	CORPUS CHRISTI, TX	$210,095,963	$236,575,417	-11.2%
159	ALBUQUERQUE, NM	$424,588,429	$479,150,804	-11.4%
160	BOSTON, MA	$770,695,792	$874,325,078	-11.9%
161	CINCINNATI, OH	$189,878,332	$215,592,891	-11.9%
162	HOUSTON, TX	$1,178,842,966	$1,344,270,231	-12.3%
163	RENO, NV	$172,490,856	$197,274,903	-12.6%
164	ALLENTOWN, PA	$22,049,683	$25,778,427	-14.5%
165	OAKLAND, CA	$194,992,285	$228,091,647	-14.5%
166	HOUMA, LA	$11,090,907	$12,975,465	-14.5%
167	TULSA, OK	$320,752,573	$378,147,320	-15.2%
168	TALLAHASSE, FL	$115,900,182	$137,652,511	-15.8%
169	DENVER, CO	$326,457,911	$389,826,032	-16.3%
170	DALLAS, TX	$2,067,873,007	$2,476,676,463	-16.5%
171	MACON, GA	$98,916,454	$120,312,245	-17.8%
172	CONCORD, CA	$207,985,888	$260,390,977	-20.1%
173	LUBBOCK, TX	$168,740,229	$212,353,116	-20.5%
174	SALEM, OR	$42,077,032	$53,977,465	-22.0%
175	STOCKTON, CA	$104,612,296	$138,055,094	-24.2%
176	WICHITA, KS	$133,976,794	$177,669,026	-24.6%
177	SAN ANTONIO, TX	$647,886,931	$862,261,221	-24.9%
178	ABILENE, TX	$91,528,219	$122,537,421	-25.3%
179	BEAUMONT, TX	$72,311,047	$99,455,257	-27.3%
180	DETROIT, MI	$212,104,690	$292,583,474	-27.5%
181	LITTLE ROCK, AR	$199,188,487	$277,683,729	-28.3%
182	LAKEWOOD, CO	$111,175,461	$156,379,459	-28.9%
183	OKLAHOMA CITY, OK	$405,289,213	$570,594,814	-29.0%
184	GARY, IN	$14,710,218	$20,927,906	-29.7%
185	BATON ROUGE, LA	$371,783,589	$529,769,276	-29.8%
186	DAYTON, OH	$55,368,297	$79,134,186	-30.0%
187	KNOXVILLE, TN	$86,429,752	$124,837,828	-30.8%
188	HOLLYWOOD, FL	$71,554,154	$104,920,577	-31.8%
189	PATERSON, NJ	$22,771,975	$33,559,081	-32.1%
190	ROANOKE, VA	$45,913,554	$69,838,425	-34.3%
191	SPOKANE, WA	$81,647,943	$132,947,955	-38.6%
192	ANCHORAGE, AK	$481,471,361	$792,512,897	-39.2%
193	LOWELL, MA	$70,821,076	$122,652,801	-42.3%
194	DULUTH, MN	$16,283,504	$29,024,495	-43.9%
195	PEORIA, IL	$25,516,834	$56,236,120	-54.6%

THE DUN & BRADSTREET CORPORATION

Economic Analysis Department

Building Permit Values - 202 Largest U.S. Cities

RANK BY % CHG.:	CITY:	TOTAL 1985	TOTAL 1984	% CHANGE 1984-1985
196	MOBILE, AL	$88,866,170	$255,584,063	-65.2%
197	YONKERS, NY	$40,848,524	$229,922,996	-82.2%
198	BALTIMORE, MD	N/A	N/A	N/A*
199	CLEVELAND, OH	N/A	N/A	N/A*
200	SOUTH BEND, IN	N/A	N/A	N/A*
201	SCRANTON, PA	N/A	N/A	N/A*
202	STAMFORD, CT	N/A	N/A	N/A*
	Total 202 Cities -	$55,090,844,580	$50,094,634,949	10.0%

Not included in % change calculation

July 9, 1986
(1514)